21 FEB 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED/DESIGNATED OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

Applicant(s):

T. Sugata et al.

For:

FASTENER AND SECUREMENT

SUBJECT HAVING THE FASTENER

SECURED THERETO

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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

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Michael S. Leonard

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified International Application before entry into the National Stage before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 35 U.S.C. §371, and prior to calculation of claim fees.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call Applicants' Representative to discuss any issues with this application.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 2 of this Preliminary Amendment.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this Preliminary Amendment.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this Preliminary Amendment.